



DEEPWATER NEWS

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Update on the Status of the 123' WPBs

Why is the Deepwater Program converting the 110s to 123s and replacing them 15 years later?

The Deepwater Program and the System Integrator (SI) are working together under the AC&I funding ceilings established by the Coast Guard to maximize the operational effectiveness and minimize the total ownership costs of the entire integrated system. In order to accomplish this, difficult choices and trade-offs have been made and will continue to be made. As a result, the proposed solution identifies that recapitalization and improvement of C4ISR resources, legacy asset disposition, design and production of the National Security Cutter, and other aviation and logistics recapitalization projects as the top priority for the near term. The proposal states that for a smaller investment than the cost of a new patrol boat - 1/3 to 1/2 the cost - the 110' WPBs could be retained & their hull life extended, providing a cost effective means of improving overall capability.

The SI and the CG are currently working on the detailed design phase of the upgrade. Once the design has been finalized, testing will begin and the final production readiness review will occur in December. Following those decisions, plans call for the first 110' to arrive at Bollinger Shipyard in approximately February 2003 and the first 123' to be delivered to the fleet in November '03.

During the first five years, 25 110' patrol boats will be upgraded. The changes include:

- Lengthening the hull 13' to provide stern launch/recovery capability for the new 7m rigid hull boats – the Short Range Prosecutor (SRP).
- Renewing the pilothouse to include a 360° Bridge for increased visibility and a 200% increase in available deck space
- C4ISR Suite upgrades for increased capabilities in communications, detection and prosecution. These upgrades include:
 - Three separate LANs: 1) Administrative; 2) Command/Control; 3) Main Propulsion
 - Integrated Communications Systems including commercial satellite; new radio suite for Law Enforcement; Integrated Voice Comms (IVCS) for automated routing of communications; Message Processing Systems
 - Command and Control System to visualize an operational picture with an integrated radar display
 - New sensors that include Infra-Red and Electro-Optics
 - Logistics Network Computing Equipment, Servers, Workstations, Network Components, Pocket PCs and Tablet PCs
- Increased habitability for improved quality of life. These upgrades include moving the aft berthing forward and to the main deck, providing a workshop, outfitting the ship with a washer/dryer for crew use and rehabbing the berthing and galley spaces.

The Bollinger PowerPoint presentation highlighting the 110' – 123' enhancements is available on our website at www.uscg.mil/deepwater/110%20Enhancements1.ppt

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Additional aspects of new Deepwater assets will be addressed in future newsletters. Questions or Comments? Please e-mail us at deepwater@comdt.uscg.mil